



04-26-02

267.153-DIV

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:  
ANTONUCCI et al  
Serial No.: 09/702,322  
Filed: October 31, 2000  
For: POLYMERIC...ABOVE 100°C

T. Tran

Group: 1741

600 Third Avenue  
New York N.Y. 10016  
April 25, 2002

**AMENDMENT**

Asst. Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Responsive to the office action of January 17, 2002 please

amend this application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claim 12 (amended) A method for conditioning a polymeric

proton exchange membrane for operation at temperatures above 100°C,

the method comprising the steps of:

a: heating the membrane to a temperature at least about 5°C above its said intended operating temperature;

b: selecting a desired percentage of conversion of the membrane polymer from an initial amorphous state to a crystalline stage;

c: holding said membrane at an elevated temperature for a predetermined interval, wherein the predetermined interval has been selected to permit the desired percentage conversion of amorphous to crystalline